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MESSAGE FORM 14-3

George A. Carver, Jr.
DCI/SAVA
23 Sept. 1971

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1. REF TYPE REPORTING ON COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IS VERY USEFUL. CURTAILMENT OF U.S. FORCES ACTIVITY HAS GREATLY REDUCED FLOW OF CAPTURED DOCUMENTS, PWS, AND RALLIERS WHICH PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED DATA ON IN-COUNTRY ENEMY'S PLANS, INTENTIONS, AND CAPABILITIES. WE MUST THEREFORE LOOK INCREASINGLY TO STATION FOR CONTINUING CLOSE COVERAGE THESE SUBJECTS. OF CONSTANT INTEREST WILL BE INDICATIONS OF STRATEGIC NATURE, SUCH AS RETURN TO SOUTH VIETNAM OF ELEMENTS OF MAIN FORCE UNITS, INCREASED MOVEMENT SUPPLIES TO UNITS IN SOUTH VIETNAM AND REOPENING OF TRADITIONAL SUPPLY CORRIDORS, AND REORGANIZATIONS AT LOWER POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEVELS.

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2. PARA 1 REF, RAISES SOME IMMEDIATE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PATTERN OF MOVEMENT OF COMMUNIST MAIN FORCES IN THE GVN MR 3 AREAS AND NEAR TERM COMMUNIST INTENTIONS. PARA 1 INDICATES THAT THE 2ND BN, 101ST REGT, HAD JUST RECENTLY RETURNED TO SOUTH VIETNAM AFTER REFITTING IN CAMBODIA. IT IS NOT CLEAR, HOWEVER, WHETHER THIS WAS A NORMAL ACTIVITY PATTERN (I.E., FAIRLY FREQUENT MOVE TO CAMBODIA FOR SUPPLIES AND REINFORCEMENTS THEN BACK TO SVN OPERATING AREA) OR REFLECTS A RETURN OF AT LEAST ONE NVA UNIT FROM CAMBODIA TO MR 3.

3. OUR HOLDINGS SHOW THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE 101ST NVA REGT TO BE IN GENERAL AREA OF MICHELIN PLANTATION AND INDICATE THAT THIS HEADQUARTERS HAS BEEN THERE FOR SOME TIME. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY REAL FEEL FOR THE POSITIONING OF ITS SUBORDINATE BATTALIONS. QUITE POSSIBLY THE MOVEMENT OF THE 2ND BN, DESCRIBED IN REF, IS PART OF NORMAL ROTATION OF COMBAT ELEMENTS.

COORDINATING OFFICERS

GROUP 1
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HOWEVER, IF THIS REFLECTS A BATTALION FROM CAMBODIA REJOINING PARENT UNIT IN SVN, IT TAKES ON A MORE OMINOUS ASPECT.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTION ON MOVEMENT OF SUBORDINATE ELEMENTS OF 101ST, PARTICULARLY 2ND BN, AS WELL AS WHAT YOU SEE AS PATTERN OF MOVEMENT OF ENEMY FORCES BACK INTO GVN MR 3 (BOTH AT PRESENT AND IN FUTURE).

END OF MESSAGE

C/FE

RELEASING OFFICE

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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